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ABSTRACT

The Current Controversies series explores social, political, and economic controversies that dominate the national and international scenes today from a variety of perspectives. Recent surveys have shown that, after years of decline, drug use among teenagers has increased during the 1990s, and that alcohol and tobacco use have remained unacceptably high. Identifying the causes of teen substance use and dependence plays an important part in the prevention of addiction among teenagers. Health experts agree that there are many overlapping causes. The 29 papers in this collection, grouped into 4 chapters, examine the causes of teenage drug use and addiction and explore solutions to this problem. The chapters are: (1) "What Are the Causes of Teenage Addiction?"; (2) "Is Teenage Substance Abuse a Serious Problem?"; (3) "How Can Teenage Addiction Be Prevented?"; and (4) "Can Regulation of Tobacco Marketing Prevent Teenage Addiction to Cigarettes?" A list of 17 organizations to contact for further information is included. (Contains 38 references.) (SLD)

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